

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, and 14 are pending in this application. Claims 1-5, 8-12, and 15 were rejected and claims 6 and 13 are objected to. Claims 2, 5, 6, 9, 12, 13 and 15 have been cancelled without prejudice. Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowance of claims 7, 14, and 16, and the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 6 and 13. In light of the remarks set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that each of the pending claims is in immediate condition for allowance.

Claims 1, 3, 8, 10, and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,262,770 ("Boyce"). Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection is moot in view of the present amendments.

In an effort to expedite prosecution of this matter, Applicant has canceled the rejected claims and rewritten the allowed claims in independent form. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for the pending claims.

Applicant has responded to all of the rejections and objections recited in the Office Action. Reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance for all of the pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

If the Examiner believes an interview would be of assistance, the Examiner is welcome to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,

By _____
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